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Attorney Docket No. SABI-027/01US (M4-US1) PATENT

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By: Irene Kizer

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:	Examiner: Teresa D. Wessendorf
Wang et al.	Group Art Unit: 1639
For: **DIMERIZING PEPTIDES**	Confirmation No.: 6438
Serial No.: 09/636,243	
Filed: August 10, 2000	
Atty. Docket No.: SABI-027/01US (8325-1004)	

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Washington, D.C. 20231

TRANSMITTAL OF RESPONSE

Enclosed are the following documents in response to the Final Office Action mailed April 8, 2003 for the above-identified application:

[X] Amendment/Response
[X] Return receipt postcard

No fee is believed to be due. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16, 1.17, and 1.21 that may be required by this paper, and to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 03-3117.

Respectfully submitted,
COOLEY GODWARD LLP

Dated: May 7, 2003

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PATENT

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING PURSUANT TO 37 CFR § 1.8

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Diane Kizer

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Driggs
5-2003

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Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This communication is filed in response to the Final Office Action dated April 8, 2003. Because this response is submitted within 2 months of the date of mailing, namely by June 8, 2003, **expedited procedure after final** is requested.

I. AMENDMENTS

In the specification:

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 13, line 22 as follows:

-- Different zinc finger proteins can be used preassociated or can be used separately in which case they associated in situ. Often zinc finger proteins linked to dimerizing peptides of the invention remain dissociated in solution, and dimerized only on binding to DNA. Such is advantageous in promoting dimerization between two different zinc finger proteins linked to the dimerizing peptides relative to homodimerization of the two copies of the same zinc finger protein. For example, if a target sequence contains adjacent sites for two different zinc finger proteins, both zinc finger proteins can bind simultaneously to the target sequence, and then dimerize with each other mediated by the linked dimerizing peptide. By contrast, two copies of the same zinc finger cannot usually bind adjacent to each other on the same target sequence (unless by coincidence the target contains an inverted repeat of the target site for that zinc finger). Accordingly, multiple copies of the same zinc finger do not typically homodimerize with each other unless the target is designed or selected specifically so that such dimerization should occur. For *in vivo* applications, zinc finger proteins and linked dimerizing peptides are typically administered indirectly by contacting cells or organisms with an expression vector encoding one or more zinc finger proteins and linked dimerizing peptides. The expression vector is introduced into the cell and expresses the one or more zinc finger proteins and linked dimerizing peptides within the cell. For in vitro applications, such as diagnostics, associated zinc finger proteins are typically used directly in the protein form. In both in vivo and in vitro applications, use of nonnaturally occurring peptides to mediate dimerization offers the advantage relative to natural dimerizing peptides, such as fos and jun, in that nonnatural peptides are unlikely to crossreact with natural proteins within a cell.--